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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
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9 Eduardo Aguilera,

10 Petitioner,

11 v.

12 Charles L. Ryan, et al.,

13 Respondents.  
14

No. CV-19-01788-PHX-DJH (JZB)

**REPORT AND  
RECOMMENDATION**

15  
16 TO THE HONORABLE DIANE J. HUMETEWA, UNITED STATES DISTRICT  
17 JUDGE:

18 Petitioner Eduardo Aguilera, has filed a pro se Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus  
19 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. (Doc. 1.)

20 **I. Summary of Conclusion.**

21 Petitioner raises four grounds for relief in his Petition. All four grounds are  
22 unexhausted and procedurally defaulted without excuse. Petitioner argues that he is  
23 actually innocent of his Aggravated DUI offense because his license was not suspended at  
24 the time of his arrest. But the arguments he submits now were previously discussed and  
25 argued before his trial jury. Petitioner fails to demonstrate he is actually innocent.  
26 Therefore, the Court will recommend that the Petition be denied and dismissed with  
27 prejudice.  
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1     **II.     Background.**

2     **A.     Facts of the Crimes.**

3     The Arizona Court of Appeals found:

4             In October 2013, a law enforcement officer served Aguilera with an  
5     Order of Suspension/Administrative Per Se (“2013 Suspension Order”) and  
6     confiscated Aguilera’s driver’s license on suspicion of driving while under  
7     the influence (“DUI”). The 2013 Suspension Order stated: “[Y]our Arizona  
8     driving privilege is suspended for not less than 90 consecutive days effective  
9     15 days from Date Served . . . . This order is final unless a summary review  
10    or hearing is requested . . . and this suspension will not end until all  
11    reinstatement requirements are met.” The next day, Aguilera obtained a new  
12    driver’s license from an MVD office and confirmed his current address.  
13    While obtaining the new license, Aguilera discussed his license status with  
14    an employee; he testified at trial that he left the MVD with the impression  
15    that his license would not be suspended without a hearing. Aguilera,  
16    however, did not request a hearing within the 15-day period following  
17    service of the 2013 Suspension Order; thus, the order became effective on  
18    November 11, 2013.

19            On November 22, 2013, the MVD mailed an “Order of Suspension  
20    Reminder” to Aguilera at his current address on record. The “courtesy  
21    notice” stated that even though Aguilera obtained a new license on October  
22    28, 2013, his driver’s license was suspended effective November 11, 2013  
23    and it would be eligible for reinstatement in February 2014 if he completed  
24    the requirements associated with reinstatement.

25            Aguilera failed to reinstate his driver’s license and in July 2014 he  
26    was arrested for suspicion of DUI. The State indicted Aguilera for (1) driving  
27    with a suspended license while under the influence of an intoxicating liquor  
28    or drug, (2) driving with a blood alcohol concentration of or exceeding .08,  
29    and (3) driving while under the influence of an impermissible drug or its  
30    metabolite. Because the State alleged that each of the three counts were  
31    committed while Aguilera’s driving privileges were suspended, each count  
32    was charged as an aggravated offense.

33            Aguilera represented himself at trial with the assistance of advisory  
34    counsel. His principal defense was that his license was valid at the time of  
35    his arrest because it appeared valid upon initial inquiry by the arresting  
36    officer and because Aguilera was led to believe by MVD “that it takes a  
37    hearing to suspend [a] driver’s license.” Anticipating this defense, the State  
38    filed a motion in limine expressing its concern that Aguilera would attempt  
39    to offer “misstatements of law” and would refer to hearsay statements made  
40    by an unidentified MVD employee. Aguilera urged the trial court to deny the  
41    motion “based on the fact that they told me different[ly] at the MVD and I  
42    have proof of what they told me to back it up.” To resolve the issue, the court  
43    permitted Aguilera to “discuss what occurred at the MVD, except for you  
44    telling what other people said to you.” The court informed Aguilera that “you  
45    can explain what happened at MVD . . . but you cannot include  
46    statements . . . . [A]s long as there’s reasonable grounds of relevancy, I’m  
47    going to allow you to say, I went to MVD and here’s what happened.”

48            A jury found Aguilera guilty as charged and the trial court imposed  
49    concurrent mitigated six-year prison sentences on each of the three counts.

1 Doc. 31-2, Ex. CC, at 10.

2 **B. Direct Appeal.**

3 On March 2, 2016, Petitioner's counsel filed a notice of appeal. (Doc. 31-1, Ex. S,  
4 at 87.) On August 26, 2016, Petitioner's counsel filed an opening brief. (Doc. 31-1, Ex. W,  
5 at 100.) On February 23, 2017, the Arizona Court of Appeals affirmed Petitioner's  
6 conviction. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. CC, at 10.)

7 On March 6, 2017, Petitioner filed a motion for review with the Arizona Supreme  
8 Court. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. DD, at 17.) On August 17, 2017, the motion was denied. (Doc. 31-2,  
9 Ex. FF, at 30.) On September 19, 2017, the mandate issued. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. GG, at 32.)

10 **C. Post-Conviction Relief Proceedings.**

11 On May 10, 2016, Petitioner filed a motion for "Evidentiary Hearing," which the  
12 court construed as a notice of post-conviction relief. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. KK, at 56.) On  
13 October 24, 2016, PCR counsel notified the superior court that counsel found no colorable  
14 claims for PCR relief. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. LL, at 59.) The court notified Petitioner he had until  
15 December 23, 2016 to file a pro per PCR petition. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. MM, at 64.) On  
16 February 4, 2017, the court dismissed the proceeding because Petitioner did not file petition  
17 by the deadline. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. NN, at 66.)<sup>1</sup>

18 **D. Petitioner's Federal Habeas Petition.**

19 On August 22, 2018, Petitioner submitted the habeas Petition for mailing (doc. 1  
20 at 11), and it was mailed on March 12, 2019 (doc. 1-1 at 1). The Petition was filed on  
21 March 15, 2019. The Court summarized Petitioner's four claims as follows:

22 In Ground One, Petitioner alleges that Arizona's "admin per se" proceedings  
23 violate the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments. In Ground Two, Petitioner  
24 appears to allege that he is actually innocent, stating that there were "major  
25 flaws" with a "stay" that was placed on his "driving record," and that, as a  
26 result, his driver's license was not suspended on July 20, 2014. In Ground  
27 Three, Petitioner alleges that his conviction violates the Double Jeopardy  
28 clause of the Fifth Amendment. And in Ground Four, Petitioner alleges that  
certain evidence was never presented to the jurors.

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<sup>1</sup> Petitioner filed numerous additional motions with the court, which are outlined in  
the Response and do not need to be recounted here. (Doc. 31 at 12-16.)

1 (Doc. 19 at 2.)

2 On April 1, 2019, Respondents filed a Limited Response. (Doc. 16.) On  
3 April 26, 2019, Petitioner filed a Reply. (Doc. 17.)

4 **III. Bypass of Time Calculation.**

5 Petitioner is deemed to have filed the Petition on August 22, 2018, even though it  
6 was not mailed until March 12, 2019. The Court will assume the Petition is timely, and  
7 Respondents agree it is “arguably” timely. Regardless, the Court would bypass the question  
8 of whether the Petition is timely because the administration of justice is better served here  
9 by addressing procedural default and actual innocence issues in the case. *See Day v.*  
10 *McDonough*, 547 U.S. 198, 209-10 (2006) (noting a court has the discretion to decide  
11 whether the administration of justice is better served by “addressing the merits or by  
12 dismissing the petition as time barred.”).<sup>2</sup>

13 **IV. Procedural Default.**

14 **A. Exhaustion.**

15 Ordinarily, a federal court may not grant a petition for writ of habeas corpus unless  
16 a petitioner has exhausted available state remedies. 28 U.S.C. § 2254(b). To exhaust state  
17 remedies, a petitioner must afford the state courts the opportunity to rule upon the merits  
18 of his federal claims by “fairly presenting” them to the state’s “highest” court in a  
19 procedurally appropriate manner. *Baldwin v. Reese*, 541 U.S. 27, 29 (2004) (“[t]o provide  
20 the State with the necessary ‘opportunity,’ the prisoner must ‘fairly present’ his claim in  
21 each appropriate state court . . . thereby alerting that court to the federal nature of the  
22 claim”).

23 A claim has been fairly presented if the petitioner has described both the operative  
24 facts and the federal legal theory on which his claim is based. *See id.* at 33. A “state prisoner  
25 does not ‘fairly present’ a claim to a state court if that court must read beyond a petition or  
26 brief . . . that does not alert it to the presence of a federal claim in order to find material,

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28 <sup>2</sup> On June 24, 2019, Petitioner filed a “Request for Certificate of Appealability.”  
(Doc. 30.) Therein, Petitioner submits explanations for his filing dates in this case and a  
second habeas matter in CV 19-02660-PHX-JGZ-BGM.

1 such as a lower court opinion in the case, that does so.” *Id.* at 31-32. Thus, “a petitioner  
2 fairly and fully presents a claim to the state court for purposes of satisfying the exhaustion  
3 requirement if he presents the claim: (1) to the proper forum . . . (2) through the proper  
4 vehicle, . . . and (3) by providing the proper factual and legal basis for the claim.”  
5 *Insyxiengmay v. Morgan*, 403 F.3d 657, 668 (9th Cir. 2005) (internal citations omitted).

6 **B. Merits.**

7 The Court may not grant a writ of habeas corpus to a state prisoner on a claim  
8 adjudicated on the merits in state court proceedings unless the state court reached a decision  
9 which was contrary to clearly established federal law, or the state court decision was an  
10 unreasonable application of clearly established federal law. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2254(d); *Davis*  
11 *v. Ayala*, 135 S. Ct. 2187, 2198-99 (2015); *Musladin v. Lamarque*, 555 F.3d 834, 838 (9th  
12 Cir. 2009). The AEDPA requires that the habeas court review the “last reasoned decision”  
13 from the state court, “which means that when the final state court decision contains no  
14 reasoning, we may look to the last decision from the state court that provides a reasoned  
15 explanation of the issue.” *Murray v. Schriro*, 746 F.3d 418, 441 (9th Cir. 2014) (quoting  
16 *Shackleford v. Hubbard*, 234 F.3d 1072, 1079 n.2 (9th Cir. 2000)).

17 Clearly established Federal law for purposes of § 2254(d)(1) includes only  
18 the holdings, as opposed to the dicta, of this Court’s decisions. And an  
19 unreasonable application of those holdings must be objectively  
20 unreasonable, not merely wrong; even clear error will not suffice. Rather, as  
21 a condition for obtaining habeas corpus from a federal court, a state prisoner  
must show that the state court’s ruling on the claim being presented in federal  
court was so lacking in justification that there was an error well understood  
and comprehended in existing law beyond any possibility for fair minded  
disagreement.

22 *White v. Woodall*, 134 S. Ct. 1697, 1702 (2014) (internal citations and quotations omitted).  
23 *See also Arrendondo v. Neven*, 763 F.3d 1122, 1133-34 (9th Cir. 2014).

24 Factual findings of a state court are presumed to be correct and can be reversed by  
25 a federal habeas court only when the federal court is presented with clear and convincing  
26 evidence. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2254(e)(1); *Brumfield v. Cain*, 135 S. Ct. 2269, 2277 (2015).  
27 The “presumption of correctness is equally applicable when a state appellate court, as  
28 opposed to a state trial court, makes the finding of fact.” *Sumner v. Mata*, 455 U.S. 591,

1 593 (1982). *See also Phillips v. Ornoski*, 673 F.3d 1168, 1202 n.13 (9th Cir. 2012).

2 **V. Ground One.**

3 In Ground One, Petitioner argues that the Arizona “Admin Per Se”<sup>3</sup> statute violates  
4 the presumption of innocence, the “due process of law under the 5th Amendment,” and  
5 “abridge[es] people’s privileges.” (Doc. 1 at 6.)

6 **A. Procedural Default.**

7 Petitioner’s is unexhausted and procedurally defaulted because he did not raise this  
8 claim on direct appeal. On direct appeal, Petitioner argued that he should have been  
9 permitted to testify that a Motor Vehicle Department worker told him his license was not  
10 suspended. (Doc. 31-1, Ex. W, at 103.) A procedurally defaulted claim may not be barred  
11 from federal review, however, “if the petitioner can demonstrate either (1) ‘cause for the  
12 default and actual prejudice as a result of the alleged violation of federal law,’ or (2) ‘that  
13 failure to consider the claims will result in a fundamental miscarriage of justice.’” *Jones v.*  
14 *Ryan*, 691 F.3d 1093, 1101 (9th Cir. 2012) (quoting *Coleman*, 501 U.S. at 732). *See also*  
15 *Boyd v. Thompson*, 147 F.3d 1124, 1126-27 (9th Cir. 1998) (the cause and prejudice  
16 standard applies to pro se petitioners and to those represented by counsel). To establish  
17 “cause,” a petitioner must establish that some objective factor external to the defense  
18 impeded his efforts to comply with the state’s procedural rules. *Cook v. Schriro*, 538 F.3d  
19 1000, 1027 (9th Cir. 2008) (quoting *Murray v. Carrier*, 477 U.S. 478, 488-89 (1986)).  
20 “[P]rejudice’ is actual harm resulting from the constitutional violation or error.” *Magby v.*  
21 *Wawrzaszek*, 741 F.2d 240, 244 (9th Cir. 1984). To establish prejudice, a petitioner must  
22 show that the alleged error “worked to his actual and substantial disadvantage, infecting  
23 his entire trial with error of constitutional dimensions.” *United States v. Frady*, 456 U.S.

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25 <sup>3</sup> An admin per se/implied consent form informs detained motorists of the  
26 consequences under Arizona law of refusing to submit to and complete an officer’s choice  
27 of scientific test for intoxication. *See State v. Gaffney*, 8 P.3d 376, 377 (Ariz. Ct. App.  
28 2000); *see also* A.R.S. § 28-1321(B)(... After an arrest a violator shall be requested to  
submit to and successfully complete any test or tests prescribed by subsection A of this  
section, and if the violator refuses the violator shall be informed that the violator's license  
or permit to drive will be suspended or denied for twelve months, . . . unless the violator  
expressly agrees to submit to and successfully completes the test or tests.”).

1 152, 170 (1982); *Thomas v. Lewis*, 945 F.2d 1119, 1123 (9th Cir. 1996). Where a petitioner  
2 fails to establish either cause or prejudice, the court need not reach the other requirement.  
3 See *Hiivala v. Wood*, 195 F.3d 1098, 1105 n.6 (9th Cir. 1999); *Cook*, 538 F.3d at 1028  
4 n.13.

5 Here, Petitioner presents no cause to explain why he failed to present this claim on  
6 direct appeal. He states that his “appellate attorney (Natalee Segal) did all the disputing for  
7 me. I raise[d] the issues in a motion for an evidentiary hearing.” (Doc. 1 at 6.) Petitioner  
8 could have raised this issue on appeal but failed to do so. Petitioner argues that he attempted  
9 to raise this claim in a pro se “Motion for Evidentiary Hearing” before the Arizona Court  
10 of Appeals. (*Id.*) In the motion, he argued that his license was not actually suspended “until  
11 November 6, 2014 where a hearing took place at the Arizona Department of  
12 Transportation.” (Doc. 31-1, Ex. X, at 111.) Petitioner argued that until he actually had a  
13 hearing, his license could not have been suspended. The court denied the motion because  
14 it was not filed by his appellate counsel. (Doc. 31-1, Ex. Y, at 117.) Petitioner’s motion  
15 was insufficient to exhaust this claim.

16 **B. Actual Innocence.**

17 A failure to establish cause may be excused “in an extraordinary case, where a  
18 constitutional violation has probably resulted in the conviction of one who is actually  
19 innocent.” *Murray v. Carrier*, 477 U.S. 478, 496 (1986) (emphasis added). A petitioner  
20 asserting his actual innocence of the underlying crime must show “it is more likely than  
21 not that no reasonable juror would have convicted him in the light of the new evidence”  
22 presented in his habeas petition. *Schlup v. Delo*, 513 U.S. 298, 327 (1995). A petitioner  
23 must present “new reliable evidence—whether it be exculpatory scientific evidence,  
24 trustworthy eyewitness accounts, or critical physical evidence—that was not presented at  
25 trial.” *Id.* at 324.

26 Here, Petitioner fails to present evidence of actual innocence to excuse the  
27 procedural default of his claim. On September 3, 2019, Petitioner filed a Motion for Status  
28 Update. (Doc. 34.) In the motion, Petitioner asks how “many times do I have to invoke this

1 right of mine that I have in order to get the Court to acknowledge the evidence in my case?”  
2 (*Id.* at 1.) He asserts that he has had “the evidence to prove my innocence for over 5 years.”  
3 (*Id.*) Petitioner’s sole reference to exculpatory evidence is contained in Ground Four where  
4 Petitioner asserts that “Officer Chase [] wrote out an affidavit about my driver’s license  
5 being valid. This affidavit was never presented to the jurors.” (Doc. 1 at 9.) Petitioner did  
6 not present that affidavit to this Court. Importantly, Officer Chase testified at trial that the  
7 status of Petitioner’s driver’s license at the time of Aggravated DUI stop on July 4, 2014  
8 was “valid.”<sup>4</sup> (Doc. 31-3, Ex. RRR, at 91-92.) Officer Chase later testified that his review  
9 of Petitioner’s status was based upon “limited access to his MVD record.” (*Id.* at 96.) He  
10 testified that “more detailed MVD records” were available to personnel in the court system.  
11 (*Id.*) Petitioner’s claim is not new because the trial jury considered Officer Chase’s  
12 testimony prior to returning its verdict.

13 The Court has further reviewed the state-court record to search for evidence of  
14 actual innocence. On January 25, 2016, Petitioner filed a “Special Action Petition for  
15 Evidentiary Hearing” in the Maricopa County Superior Court. In that Petition, he alleged  
16 that his actual license suspension did not occur until December 6, 2014. He argued:

17 On November 6, 2014, a hearing took place where a judge by the  
18 name of Jhon H. Walker suspended my driver’s license and it was to take  
19 effect on December 6, 2014. My driver’s license got suspended 5 months  
20 later from the state’s accusations. This is the real due process of law going  
into effect. This is where my drivers license got suspended. This evidence  
was never presented to the jurors.

21 (Doc. 31-1, Ex. L, at 56.) But Petitioner is incorrect regarding his suspension. Petitioner’s  
22 driving privilege was suspended based upon an October 27, 2013 DUI arrest. (Doc. 31-3,  
23 Ex. DDD at 11).<sup>5</sup> “On November 22, 2013, the MVD mailed an ‘Order of Suspension  
24 Reminder’ to Aguilera at his current address on record. The ‘courtesy notice’ stated that  
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26 <sup>4</sup> This is also reflected in the police report. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. AA, at 5; Doc. 31-2,  
27 Ex. DD, at 18.)

28 <sup>5</sup> Petitioner may be arguing that if his license was suspended in December of 2014,  
it could not have been suspended at the time of his Aggravated DUI arrest on July 5, 2014.  
But it is possible for a person to have several suspensions in effect at any given time.



1 even though Aguilera obtained a new license on October 28, 2013, his driver's license was  
2 suspended effective November 11, 2013[.]” (Doc. 31-3, Ex. DDD at 11.) Petitioner does  
3 not present evidence of actual innocence.

4 Importantly, this is also not new evidence. It was argued by Petitioner during his  
5 trial. The trial court ruled that Petitioner would not be permitted to discuss the December  
6 2014 suspension hearing because that had no bearing on whether his license was suspended  
7 at the time of his DUI in July of 2014. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. RRR, at 89.) Petitioner also filed  
8 the motion prior to his sentencing, which occurred on February 26, 2016. (Doc. 31-1,  
9 Ex. N, at 67.)

### 10 **C. Non-cognizable Claim.**

11 Petitioner's claim is also not cognizable because it challenges Arizona law regarding  
12 whether the State of Arizona may suspend a person's driving privilege under Arizona's  
13 motor vehicle statutes. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2254(a) (Federal habeas corpus relief may be  
14 granted “only on the ground that [petitioner] is in custody in violation of the Constitution  
15 or laws or treaties of the United States.”); *Nunes v. Ramirez-Palmer*, 485 F.3d 432, 443  
16 (9th Cir. 2007) (“[I]n federal court, there is no right to bring a habeas petition on the basis  
17 of a violation of state law.”). Petitioner's assertion of a Fourteenth Amendment violation  
18 does not make this claim cognizable. *Langford v. Day*, 110 F.3d 1380, 1389 (9th Cir. 1996)  
19 (“[A petitioner] may not, however, transform a state-law issue into a federal one merely by  
20 asserting a violation of due process.”).

### 21 **VI. Ground Two.**

22 In Ground Two, Petitioner argues that the suspension of his driving privilege was  
23 set to “go into effect on July 20, 2014” if he did not request a stay of a Motor Vehicle  
24 Department hearing. (Doc. 1 at 7.) But Petitioner's claim appears to have no bearing on the  
25 nature of his conviction in this case. As noted above, Petitioner's first DUI stop was  
26 October 27, 2013. (Doc. 31-3, Ex. DDD at 11.) Petitioner's second DUI stop was July 5,  
27 2014. (Doc. 31-3, Ex. DDD, at 15.) In Ground Two, Petitioner is contesting the suspension  
28 related to his July 5, 2014 DUI arrest. Petitioner is not in custody regarding that suspension.

1 He is in custody based upon the DUI arrest on July 5, 2014 and a suspension of driving  
2 privileges related to the October 27, 2013 DUI arrest.

3 Petitioner's claim is not cognizable because he is not in custody based upon a  
4 suspension of his license that may have occurred after his Aggravated DUI arrest. "The  
5 federal habeas statute gives the United States district courts jurisdiction to entertain  
6 petitions for habeas relief only from persons who are 'in custody in violation of the  
7 Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States.'" *Maleng v. Cook*, 490 U.S. 488, 490  
8 (1989) (per curiam) (citation omitted); *Williamson v. Gregoire*, 151 F.3d 1180, 1183 (9th  
9 Cir. 1998) ("Thus, the boundary that limits the 'in custody' requirement is the line between  
10 a 'restraint on liberty' and a 'collateral consequence of a conviction.' In general, courts  
11 hold that the imposition of a fine or the revocation of a license is merely a collateral  
12 consequence of conviction, and does not meet the 'in custody' requirement.").

13 Petitioner's claim is also unexhausted and procedurally defaulted because he did not  
14 raise this claim on direct appeal. Petitioner presents no cause to explain why he failed to  
15 present this claim on direct appeal. Petitioner was aware of the issues regarding his  
16 suspension and a stay because they were discussed during his trial. Petitioner asked  
17 questions of Malia Gibson of the Arizona Motor Vehicle Department regarding the stay of  
18 his license suspension between July 20 and July 28, 2014. (Doc. 31-2, Ex. SSS, at 109-  
19 110.) Petitioner chose to withdraw those questions after a side-bar discussion with the  
20 court. (*Id.*) Petitioner had sufficient information to raise this claim on appeal.

## 21 **VII. Ground Three.**

22 In Ground Three, Petitioner argues his "conviction was obtain[ed] in violation" of  
23 his Fifth Amendment right of "double jeopardy." (Doc. 1 at 8.) Petitioner acknowledges  
24 that his "DUI was already dismiss[ed] before in the past at the municipal court level" and  
25 that it "was dismissed without prejudice under the assumption that the case was considered  
26 a felony." (*Id.*)<sup>6</sup> Petitioner's claim is unexhausted and procedurally defaulted because he

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28 <sup>6</sup> During trial, Petitioner objected to a lesser-included offense of DUI being included  
in the jury instructions based on the theory that the offense had already been dismissed in  
the municipal court. (Doc. 31-3, Ex. SSS, at 122.)

1 did not raise this claim on direct appeal. Petitioner acknowledges this claim was not raised  
2 on appeal and states that his “appellate attorney did all my disputing for me.” (*Id.*)  
3 Petitioner presents no cause to excuse the failure to exhaust this claim in the state courts  
4 and he does not establish that he is actually innocent.

5 **VIII. Ground Four.**

6 In Ground Four, Petitioner argues that evidence related to his license suspension  
7 was not admitted during his trial. He asserts that that “Officer Chase [] wrote out an  
8 affidavit about my driver’s license being valid. This affidavit was never presented to the  
9 jurors.” (*Id.* at 9.) Petitioner does not assert a violation of his constitutional rights.  
10 Petitioner’s claim is also unexhausted and procedurally defaulted because he did not raise  
11 this claim on direct appeal. Petitioner acknowledges this claim was not raised on appeal  
12 and states that his “appellate attorney did all my disputing for me.” (*Id.*) Petitioner presents  
13 no cause to excuse the failure to exhaust this claim in the state courts and he does not  
14 establish that he is actually innocent. As noted above, Officer Chase and a witness from  
15 the Arizona Motor Vehicle Division testified regarding the status of Petitioner’s  
16 suspension, so Petitioner could have raised this claim on direct appeal.

17 **IX. Motion for Hearing or Conference.**

18 On April 5, 2019, Petitioner filed a Motion for Hearing or Conference requesting a  
19 “telephonic hearing” to “prove that my driver’s license was valid” at the time of his  
20 Aggravated DUI stop. (Doc. 15.) The Court finds that the record is very clear regarding the  
21 status of Petitioner’s license at the time of his Aggravated DUI stop. A telephonic hearing  
22 will not assist the Court in this case.

23 **X. Motion for Status Update.**

24 On September 3, 2019, Petitioner filed a Motion for Status Update requesting the  
25 status of his Petition. (Doc. 34.) The Court recommends the Motion be denied as moot.

26 **XI. Conclusion.**

27 The record is sufficiently developed and the Court does not find that an evidentiary  
28 hearing is necessary for resolution of this matter. *See Rhoades v. Henry*, 638 F.3d 1027,

1 1041 (9th Cir. 2011). Based on the above analysis, the Court finds that Petitioner's claims  
2 are not cognizable, procedurally defaulted, or fail. The Court will therefore recommend  
3 that the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (doc. 1) be denied and dismissed with prejudice.

4 **IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED** that the Petition for Writ of Habeas  
5 Corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (doc. 1) be **DENIED** and **DISMISSED WITH**  
6 **PREJUDICE**.

7 **IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED** that the Motion for Hearing or Conference  
8 (doc. 15) be **DENIED**.

9 **IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED** that the Motion for Status Update (doc. 34)  
10 be **DENIED**.

11 **IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED** that the Motion for Certificate of  
12 Appealability (doc. 30) and leave to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal be **DENIED**  
13 because the dismissal of the Petition is justified by a plain procedural bar and reasonable  
14 jurists would not find the ruling debatable, and because Petitioner has not made a  
15 substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.

16 This recommendation is not an order that is immediately appealable to the Ninth  
17 Circuit Court of Appeals. Any notice of appeal pursuant to Rule 4(a)(1), Federal Rules of  
18 Appellate Procedure, should not be filed until entry of the district court's judgment. The  
19 parties shall have 14 days from the date of service of a copy of this Report and  
20 Recommendation within which to file specific written objections with the Court. *See* 28  
21 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(a), 6(b) and 72. Thereafter, the parties have 14 days  
22 within which to file a response to the objections.

23 Failure to timely file objections to the Magistrate Judge's Report and  
24 Recommendation may result in the acceptance of the Report and Recommendation by the  
25 district court without further review. *See United States v. Reyna-Tapia*, 328 F.3d 1114,  
26 1121 (9th Cir. 2003). Failure to timely file objections to any factual determinations of the  
27 Magistrate Judge will be considered a waiver of a party's right to appellate review of the  
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1 findings of fact in an order of judgment entered pursuant to the Magistrate Judge's Report  
2 and Recommendation. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 72.

3 Dated this 16th day of October, 2019.

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5 Honorable John Z. Boyle  
6 United States Magistrate Judge  
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